DAY PITNEY LLP

1 JEFFERSON ROAD PARSIPPANY, NJ 07054 (973) 966-6300 jscordo@daypitney.com

Attorneys For Petitioner, Scott F. Mahoney.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

SCOTT F. MAHONEY,

Petitioner,

V.

FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY
AUTHORITY;

Respondent.

Respondent.

X

HONORABLE
Civil Action No. 12
PETITION

(Document Electronically Filed)

X

(Document Electronically Filed)

Petitioner, Scott F. Mahoney, by his attorneys, Day Pitney LLP, hereby petitions the Court for an Order directing the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") to expunge the Central Registration Depository ("CRD") entry on Petitioner's record related to a customer arbitration brought by Christopher Puglisi ("Claimant") against Petitioner's then-employer, Citigroup Global Markets Inc. ("CGMI").

PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. For the sole purpose of obtaining expungement of one customer complaint from his CRD¹ record, as provided for in FINRA Rule 2080, Petitioner files this Petition seeking such Order.
- 2. Scott F. Mahoney ("Petitioner"), is a resident of Mendham, New Jersey. He is employed as a securities broker and financial advisor by Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Morristown, New Jersey. Petitioner has been a registered representative with FINRA or its predecessor entity, the National Association of Securities Dealers ("NASD"), since 1992 (CRD no. 2202743). Petitioner is a licensed securities agent of 28 states, including New Jersey, where he has been licensed since 1992.
- 3. Although this is not an adversarial proceeding, under FINRA Rule 2080(b), FINRA must be named as an "additional party" in this proceeding.
- 4. FINRA, upon information and belief, is a quasi-public, Self-Regulatory Organization ("SRO"), that has the authority to license, discipline and suspend investment professionals, known as "registered representatives." FINRA is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") as a national securities association pursuant to the authority set forth in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 78a et seq.
- 5. FINRA is a registered Delaware not-for-profit corporation, with its principal place of business in Washington, D.C.

¹ The Central Registration Depository ("CRD") is the central licensing and registration system for the United States securities industry. FINRA is tasked under the Exchange Act with keeping and updating this database. According to FINRA Rule 4530(a)(1)(G) all registered representatives must report to the CRD any actions for which such representative is named as a respondent or is unnamed, but is the "subject of."

² In 2007, FINRA became the successor entity to NASD.

- 6. The Claimant in the case that Petitioner seeks to have expunged from his record, has signed a waiver of his right to be named as a party in this proceeding and has waived service and issuance of process on him. (See Waiver Affidavit of Christopher Puglisi annexed hereto as Exhibit "A".)
- 7. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1337 and the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78 et. seq. The Exchange Act holds that district courts "shall have exclusive jurisdiction of violations of this title or the rules and regulations thereunder, and of all suits in equity and actions at law brought to enforce any liability or duty created by this title or the rules and regulations thereunder." Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78aa (a).
- 8. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391. Additionally, the Exchange Act holds that "[a]ny suit or action to enforce any liability or duty created by this title or rules and regulations thereunder, . . . may be brought in any such district or in the district wherein the defendant is found or is an inhabitant or transacts business" Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78aa (a).

LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR THE RELIEF SOUGHT

9. As an SRO, FINRA has a statutory duty to "establish and maintain a system for collecting and retaining registration information[.]" Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 780-3 (i)(1)(A). Under this authority, FINRA maintains the CRD. Most of the information from a registered representative's CRD record is publicly available on FINRA's website through the "BrokerCheck" feature. These records contain, among other things, information about complaints made by customers against registered representatives and any arbitration or litigation proceedings involving the representative.

- 10. FINRA has established a procedure for registered representatives, such as Petitioner, to obtain expungement of a record from both the CRD and BrokerCheck. While FINRA maintains these databases, expungement of a particular record can only be accomplished by means of an Order of a court of competent jurisdiction. FINRA Rule 2080(a). As a result, this Court has the power to expunge a CRD record.⁴
- 11. In addition to FINRA Rule 2080, releases by FINRA (and it's predecessor NASD) contemplate a court's independent power to grant expungements. In 1999, the NASD issued a moratorium on arbitrator ordered expungements, due to a concern that CRD records were actually state records. An arbitrator's order did not have the authority to alter a state record. In issuing the moratorium, the NASD explicitly reserved the power of a court to enter an Order for an expungement or an Order confirming an arbitration award requesting an expungement. (See FINRA Notice to Members, No. 99-09, pg. 47-48 (Feb. 1999).) This moratorium was continued in NASD Rule 2130 and subsequently in the identical FINRA Rule, 2080.
- 12. In a Regulatory Notice released in 2009, FINRA highlighted Rule 2080 and stated, "[t]he rule requires that a court of competent jurisdiction order or confirm all expungement directives before FINRA will expunge customer dispute information from the CRD system." (FINRA Regulatory Notice, No. 09-33, pg. 6 (June 2009).)
- 13. When a registered representative is not a named as a party in an arbitration proceeding, but is considered the subject of an arbitration, as arguably was the case here, the FINRA process for obtaining an expungement is not settled. FINRA, in direct response to

³ See FINRA Rule 8312. BrokerCheck is available via the FINRA website: http://www.finra.org.

⁴ See Reinking v. Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, 1:11-cv-00813 (W. D. Tex. Nov. 30, 2011).

situations such as the present matter, has proposed a new rule clarifying how a registered representative who was unnamed in a customer arbitration, can request expungement of his or her record in that same arbitration proceeding.⁵ As of now, however, the rules are still unsettled, so a registered representative must bring a petition in a court of competent jurisdiction for an original Order expunging the record.

THE UNDERLYING CASE

- 14. Christopher Puglisi, a customer of CGMI where Petitioner was employed until June of 2008, filed a statement of claim against CGMI alleging misrepresentation by the firm regarding a series of private placement investment funds (hereinafter the *Puglisi* case). The chief complaints asserted by Claimant were (1) misrepresentation in disclosure statements of a fund purchased by Claimant and (2) the mismanagement of that fund. Claimant alleged damages of no less than \$1,000,000, his original contribution to the fund.
- 15. In the answer, CGMI denied the claims asserted and stated that the historic market collapse, and not any mismanagement or inaction by CGMI, ultimately caused Claimant's losses.
- 16. A FINRA Arbitration hearing (the "Hearing") was held from October 17-21, 2011.⁶ Ultimately, a panel of three arbitrators ruled in favor of the Claimant and awarded him compensatory damages of \$749,229.19, as well as nominal interest. The award was not rendered against Petitioner nor was Petitioner asked to contribute to the award in any way.

- 5 -

⁵ See FINRA Regulatory Notice, No. 12-18 (Apr. 2012) (The notice seeks comments on a rule proposal that would allow an unnamed registered representative to seek expungement in an arbitration proceeding. The representative could then petition a court for an Order confirming an arbitration decision, rather than petition the court for an original Order of expungement.)

- 17. Furthermore, in his statement of claim, Claimant brought no claims against Petitioner and did not name Petitioner as a party to the proceeding.
- Petitioner was not responsible for his losses. In answering questions regarding Claimant's interactions with Petitioner, Claimant adamantly agreed that Petitioner, "presented [Claimant] with ideas and then allowed [Claimant] to make up [his] own mind about which ones to purchase" and that Petitioner "never tried to hard sell [Claimant,]" including with the regard to the fund that was the subject of the arbitration. (See Hearing Transcript, pp.1139-40.) Claimant absolutely did not believe that Petitioner was attempting to mislead or take advantage of Claimant in any way. Finally, Claimant did not believe that Petitioner had any information about the fund that he did not share with the Claimant. (See Hearing Transcript, pp. 1140, ln. 9-20.)
- 19. It is clear, based on the allegations and evidence adduced at the hearing, that the Claimant believed that Petitioner was simply passing on information about the fund that Petitioner had received.
- 20. This is confirmed by Claimant's counsel in his closing statement: "Mr. Puglisi doesn't blame Mr. Mahoney . . . because he knows all he did was pass along what he was told by Citigroup." (Hearing Transcript, p. 1483, ln. 5-8.)
- 21. Petitioner did not even charge Claimant a placement fee on this fund. (See Hearing Transcript, p. 1140, ln. 5-8.)

⁶ Segments of the transcript of this hearing are annexed hereto as Exhibit "B".

⁷ "Hearing Transcript" refers to the portions of the hearing transcript deemed relevant to this proceeding.

EXPUNGEMENT IS THE APPROPRIATE REMEDY

- 22. FINRA has explicitly noted that the purpose of the CRD and corresponding BrokerCheck is investor protection. (*See* FINRA Regulatory Notice, No. 08-79, pg. 2 (Dec. 2008).)
- 23. When a FINRA member firm or registered representative seeks to have a CRD record expunged, FINRA reserves the right to oppose the petition in a court of competent jurisdiction.

FINRA STANDARD FOR WAIVER

- 24. FINRA Rule 2080, outlines the standard by which FINRA determines whether to waive opposition to a petition seeking to confirm an arbitration award. FINRA will waive opposition in instances where there is an affirmative finding that "the registered person was not involved in the investment-related sales practice violation, forgery, theft, misappropriation or conversion of funds." FINRA Rule 2080(b)(1)(B).
- 25. Additionally, FINRA may, in its discretion, waive opposition where the expungement relief is meritorious, and the expungement will have "no material adverse effect on investor protection, the integrity of the CRD system or regulatory requirements." FINRA Rule 2080(b)(2)(B).
- 26. In the present matter, it is clear that the Petitioner was not involved in the "investment-related sales practice violation." As stated above, the thrust of the *Puglisi* case was the mismanagement of a particular fund and misrepresentations made by CGMI in disclosure

documents. This in no way implicates Petitioner or accuses him of any wrong-doing. As a result there is no value in this information to an investor.

- 27. This petition for expungement is clearly meritorious and expungement of this record would have no adverse effect on investor protection. The goals of investor protection are not served by leaving a mark on Petitioner's record concerning a case where he was accused of no wrong-doing. In fact, even the Claimant lauded Petitioner's interactions with Claimant.
- 28. Petitioner has been a registered securities agent since 1992 and was the subject of only one other inquiry from a customer. (This involved a wife asking whether her husband had made withdrawals from their account. The fact that the account was a joint registration was explained to the wife and the matter was dropped). Petitioner has always acted in the best interests of his clients. Having this entry on his record only hinders his ability to practice his trade and continue to help his customers.

SEC GUIDANCE

- 29. FINRA Rule 2080 (and NASD Rule 2130) presumes a subset of cases where expungement may be merited, but FINRA will not waive their participation because a case did not meet the criteria of Rule 2080. As a result, in a recent case in the Western District of Texas, the Court ruled that FINRA Rule 2080 does not purport to set out specific guidelines for a court in determining whether an order should be expunged. Instead, the Court in that case looked to the SEC for guidance.
- 30. In a Release analyzing the proposed NASD Rule 2130 (the precursor NASD equivalent to FINRA Rule 2080), the SEC stated, "[t]he Commission believes that the

proposal [of Rule 2130] strikes the appropriate balance between permitting members and associated persons to remove information from the CRD system that holds no regulatory value, while at the same time preserving information on the CRD system that is valuable to investors and regulators." (SEC Release, No. 34-48933, 68 Fed. Reg. 74667, at 75670 (Dec. 24 2003).) This release indicates that the standard for an expungement is whether the record holds "no regulatory value."

- 31. No regulatory value is served by maintaining information about a claim where no allegations of wrong-doing were asserted against a registered representative, there was no finding of fault entered against him, and he in no way contributed to the arbitration award against the firm. Here, even the Claimant explicitly stated that he did not believe that Petitioner was trying to mislead or take advantage of him in any way.
- 32. The allegations against the firm in the *Puglisi* case were simply product based. This did not involve any actions taken by Petitioner and in no way concern his ability to competently and adequately work in his clients' best interests. Petitioner was not involved in or responsible for any of the allegedly misleading information contained in the disclosure documents for the fund. Additionally, Petitioner had no management responsibilities or control over the fund purchased by Claimant.
- Petitioner in any wrongdoing. Instead, Petitioner recommended products that he thought best suited his client's needs based on representations by his firm. There was never any decision establishing that Petitioner committed any conduct that would serve as the predicate for any liability. As such, there is no continuing need for public disclosure on Petitioner's CRD record

⁸ See Reinking v. Financial Industry Regulatory Authority 1:11-cv-00813 (W. D. Tex. Nov. 30, 2011).

and BrokerCheck. Expungement will not vitiate the goal of public protection for investors. The

equitable remedy of expungement is proper to protect Petitioner's good name and livelihood.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays that FINRA be cited to appear and

answer herein with respect to expungement of the Puglisi case; that such case be ordered

expunged by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA") from Petitioner's records

as a registered representative of the securities industry; that the Court enter a Final Judgment

accordingly; and that the Petitioner have such other and further relief, both general and special,

at law or in equity, to which he may show himself to be justly entitled.

DAY PITNEY LLP

Attorneys for Petitioner, Scott F. Mahoney

By: /s/ John P. Scordo

JOHN P. SCORDO

Dated: May 8, 2012

*

- 10 -

CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO L. CIV. R. 11.2

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this matter is not the subject of any other action pending in any court or of any pending arbitration or administrative proceeding.

DAY PITNEY LLP

Attorneys for Petitioner

Scott F. Mahoney

By:

JOHN P. SCORDO

Dated: May 8, 2012

EXHIBIT A

ES DISTRICT COURT OF NEW JERSEY
: HONORABLE : Civil Action No. 12- : AFFIDAVIT OF : CHRISTOPHER PUGLISI :
ears and believe in the obligation of an oath.

Puglisi v. Citigroup Global Markets Inc. As such I have personal knowledge of the events of that

case.

- 3. In such case, I did not allege any wrongful acts or omission on the part of Petitioner, Scott F. Mahoney.
- 4. I do not contest or oppose the effort of Petitioner Scott F. Mahoney to seek an Order granting expungement of the Puglisi case from Petitioner's records as a registered representative of the securities industry.
 - 5. I waive issuance and service of process in any such legal proceeding.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this I'day of MAY , 2012.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

EXHIBIT B

```
international managers' research reports.
 1
               Do you see that?
 2
             That's correct.
 3
          Α
               Okay. And he says:
 4
          Q
 5
               If yes, have you had time to review
               do you see that?
 6
              That's correct.
 7
          Α
 8
          0
              And then he says:
               If no, would it be easier to have
 9
10
         Stephanie print them and bind them in a book
         for your review?
11
              Do you see that?
12
              Okay.
13
         Α
14
              And then below that, it says:
         Q
15
              If so, do you want me to go forward
         with the any of the following.
16
17
              And then there is a list of the
18
    information below that; do you see that?
              That's correct.
19
20
              Okay. It's true that Mr. Mahoney
    presented you with ideas and then allowed you to
21
22
    make up your mind about which ones to purchase or
    not purchase, correct?
23
24
         A Absolutely.
25
         Q Okay. He never tried to hard sell you?
```

- 1 A No, absolutely not.
- 2 Q And that was true with respect to the MAT
- 3 transaction as well?
- 4 A That's absolutely right.
- 5 Q He didn't charge you placement fee on MAT?
- 6 A That's what he said the other day. He
- 7 originally told me that. I was happy to hear that.
- 8 He told me it at the time.
- 9 Q You don't think that he was in any way
- 10 trying to mislead you or take advantage of you?
- 11 A Absolutely not.
- 12 Q Can you turn to page 370.
- 13 A Okay.
- 14 Q And just before we ask this, just along
- 15 those lines you don't believe that Mr. Mahoney had
- 16 any information about the MAT investment that he
- 17 didn't share with you; is that correct?
- 18 A The only thing, at that point?
- 19 Q Yeah.
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q Okay. Now on page 370, large cap value?
- 22 A There is nothing on 70 here.
- 23 Q Yes. It looks like an e-mail sending you
- 24 stuff with large cap value; do you see that, if you
- 25 turn to the next page?

R. Leonard, C.S.R., Inc. Certified Shorthand Reporters 818,995,2449

PAGE 1484 SHEET 58 PAGE 1482 .. here. But if you look in Volume one of claimants I said to Mr. Mahoney: notebook, you will see we blew it up at page 1-12A, "O And would you agree with me that 2 but look at the material part of that footnote: was your understanding of what fixed income 3 alternatives were designed to do? "A number of investors are wary of 4 leverage, and associate it with increased And of course he says "Yes." 5 risk. While this may be true on average, So let's go over to page 15 now. 6 the two are not necessarily linked. In our 7 Again, this is their document, not mine. view, if used judiciously, leverage actually 8 "Why Use Fixed Income Alternatives: 8 can help investors more efficiently capture Higher returns than comparable Treasury or 9 10 return opportunities and does not municipal bonds.* 10 necessarily lead to increased risk." 111 Now, I don't need you to -- I don't need 11 12 There it is again. This is how you pitch 12 to quote a definition, you know, what comparable 113 it, folks. We have got the secret sauce, we are the 13 means. It means the same; they are comparing it to 14 smartest guys in the room, we are Citigroup, we 14 Treasury or municipal bonds. 115 figured out how to do this, we can get you a little Now, the next page, which Mr. Hilgendorff 16 knew I was going to point out to you, is the white 16 bit higher return without increasing your risk. 17 They know who their target audience here is, and 17 paper, and we have been through this. I am not 18 they are speaking to it. 18 going to read it to you again, but I want you to Let's go over to page 19. 19 look at what they are saying, what Mr. Islam is 119 This is out of their material. What are 20 saying to the world about this fixed income 20 21 investing game that they are involved in. 21 they benchmarking MAT/ASTA to, the Lehman Brothers 22 Aggregate Bond Index. A benchmark has to be It's very clear, and what they are doing 23 associated with the product or it's meaningless. 23 is they are saying to the brokers, in effect, look, 24 They are benchmarking it to the Lehman Aggregate 24 this is the strategy, this is the strategy, this is 25 Bond Index. 25 what all this means. The brokers aren't expert in 1482 1484

_ PAGE 1483 1 any one specific area. They look to the firm for 2 information. And I submit to you that's precisely 3 what Mr. Mahoney did. And Mr. Hilgendorff was correct, 5 Mr. Puglisi doesn't blame Mr. Mahoney, even though 6 he hasn't spoken to him in three 1/2 years, because 7 he knows all he did was pass along what he was told 8 by Citigroup. So what this paper does -- and read the 10 highlights when you get a moment. You will see that 11 what we are talking about on page 17 is: "To better meet their objectives," 12 meaning fixed income investors, "without 13 materially increasing the risk relative to 14 15 the index." And we learned on the prior page, the 16 17 index is the Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond index. 18 It's on the page before. So they are not able to 19 say, well, we didn't mean that, we didn't mean the 20 Lehman Brothers index, we meant something else. 21 They meant it and they are saying *without 22 increasing the risk relative to the index." But the next page is remarkable. There is 24 a footnote at the bottom of page 1-12, and what we 25 did for you is we blew it up, we have bubbled it 1483

PAGE 1485 Let's go to page 21. Now, this is the 2 presentation in February of '08. So this is right 3 before the whole house collapses, and 4 Mr. Famiglietti is making a presentation, that's 5 Mr. Nifoussi's boss, Frank Famiglietti. And if you look at page 22, this is a 7 scatter chart, and you folks are familiar with 8 scatter charts. It determines, it pictures where on 9 the risk scale on the return scale investments are. 10 Look where fixed income arbitrage is, look at it, 11 it's just to the right and slightly above U.S. 12 bonds. Oh, yeah, that kind of sounds like 13 Treasuries, doesn't it. Now, you know, Mr. Hilgendorff made a 15 point about how this was carried on the statement. 16 Was it carried as a muni bond? You are right, it 17 wasn't. It was carried as a fixed income 18 alternative. And I don't think I have to go back 19 and read you the definition of what that means. 20 And by the way, you know, there is kind of 21 an interesting juxtaposition of numbers here that 22 always happens in these cases. They say, well, he 23 was looking for six to eight percent tax-free; 24 that's a massive return. You saw the bonds, the 25 muni bonds in Puglisi's portfolio. They were 1485

Puglisi vs. Citigroup FINRA Hearing - Day 5 October 21, 2011 JS 44 (Rev. 09/11)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil coversheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Mahoney, Scott F.				DEFENDANTS Financial Industry Regulatory Authority					
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Morris (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, Telephone Number, and Email Address) Day Pitney LLP, 1 Jefferson Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (973) 966-6300 John P. Scordo				Attorneys (If Known)					
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X"	in One Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF		PAL PARTIES			
□ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff				(For Diversity Cases Only en of This State	(y) PTF DEI			PTF 1	DEF 4
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant				en of Another State	3 2 3	2 Incorporated and F of Business In A		□ 5	J 5
				en or Subject of a reign Country	J 3 J	3 Foreign Nation		1 6	j 6
IV. NATURE OF SUI									22
CONTRACT 110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY ☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	PERSONAL INJUR 365 Personal Injury Product Liability 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPEI 370 Other Praud 371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal Property Damage 385 Property Damage 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIO 510 Motions to Vacad Sentence Habeas Corpus: 530 General 535 Death Penalty 540 Mandamus & Oti 550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition 560 Civil Detaince - Conditions of Confinement	exy	DRFEITURE/PENALTY 5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 88 0 Other LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Mgnit. Relations 0 Railway Labor Act 1 Family and Medical Leave Act 0 Other Labor Litigation 1 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Applicat 3 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee (Prisoner Petition) 5 Other Immigration Actions	422 A	ppeal 28 USC 158 Vithdrawal 28 USC 157 PERTY RIGHTS Opyrights atent rademark AL SECURITY IIA (1395ff) JIWC/DIWW (405(g)) SID Title XVI SI (405(g)) ERAL TAX SUITS axes (U.S. Plaintiff r To Defendant) 85—Third Party 6 USC 7609	375 False C	eapportionments and Banking erce ation eer Influence to Organization ner Credit Sat TV ies/Commodinge statutory Actifutal Acts numental Matt m of Informa tion istrative Proce vicew or Appe Decision utionality of	nent and and ons lities/ tions ters ation
		Remanded from C	J 4 Rein Reop	stated or \bigcirc 3 ano	insferred from	nn 🗇 6 Multidistr Litigation			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Brief description of ca		re filing (Da not elte jurisdictional	statutes unles		ord		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION		EMAND \$		CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND:		complaint:	:
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOC	KET NUMBER			
DATE		SIGNATURE OF AT		OF RECORD			······································		
05/08/2012		/s/ John P. Sco	ordo						
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY									
RECEIPT # AN	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUD	GE		

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 09/11)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In eases where the U.S. is aparty, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.

Example:
U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553
Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service

VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Definition. In this space office the domain amount (in mediantee of domain) of the domain amount (in mediantee)

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.